March 8, 2013

Continuing Resolution Passes House

On Wednesday, I voted to pass a continuing resolution (CR) to extend funding for federal government operations through September 30, 2013. I supported this action in order to avoid a government shutdown on March 27th, which would greatly impact thousands of seniors, military families, veterans, and taxpayers in the 31st District.

While passage of this legislation was a necessary step, it does not replace the need for Congress and the Administration to come together to solve our nation's budget challenges in a responsible way. The federal government is still operating under the President's sequestration order, which cuts essential services while leaving in place billions of taxpayer dollars for unnecessary or wasteful projects and programs. I have voted twice to replace the sequester with common-sense spending reductions and reforms that will save billions of taxpayer dollars and preserve vital programs and services without raising taxes on hard-working Inland Empire families.

Getting our nation on a fiscally sustainable path is required to avoid the across-the-board sequestration which will only hinder our ability to preserve our tepid economic recovery, job growth and protect vital services to our most vulnerable citizens. I remain committed to working with all sides to replace the sequester as soon as possible in order to avoid any negative impacts to our communities, our seniors, our schools and our veterans.

Budget Transparency Bill Sails Through the House

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) receives approximately 145 million individual income tax returns a year. With our federal government running a trillion dollar budget deficit in 2012, that comes at a cost of nearly \$6,900 per taxpayer. This week, I was proud to support legislation that will help shed light on this cost of government overspending to taxpayers.

H.R. 668 requires that the White House include in its annual budget submission to Congress the cost-per-taxpayer of the deficit for each year that the budget is projected. The bill received overwhelming bipartisan support when it was considered by the House on Tuesday, passing on a vote of 392 to 28. While this legislation won't by itself resolve our fiscal challenges, it will reveal how much spending policies proposed by the current and future Administrations will cost you and your family and I urge the Senate to join the House in passing this bipartisan budget transparency measure.

Congressman Miller Announces Tax Preparation Assistance for Families

I am pleased to announce that Congressional Tax Day will be held on Tuesday, March 19th at the San Bernardino Senior Center, located at 600 W. 5th Street in San Bernardino from 10am to 3pm. The IRS will be present to provide tax preparation assistance to low income families and taxpayers in the 31st Congressional District. This service is being provided through the IRS' Volunteer Income

Tax Assistance Program, which offers free tax information and assistance to families and individuals with household incomes of \$51,000 or less. For additional information, including a list of the required items needed to assist you with your tax return, click here. Appointments are required, so please call (909) 980-1492 to schedule your meeting today.

Despite Nation's Fiscal Challenges, Congressman Miller's Office Open to Serve Constituents

As you may have heard, the White House announced this week that they will be suspending public tours. I would like to assure residents of the 31st Congressional District that my office has identified and made spending cuts without impacting the level and quality of service that should be expected of their Representative in Congress.

Whether you are experiencing difficulties with the Social Security Administration, need help obtaining a passport from the State Department, or require any assistance in dealing with any other federal agency, my office is here to help. In addition, I pledge to you that my office in D.C. will continue to provide free tours of the United State Capitol for residents visiting Washington. For more information on how my office can help you, please visit my website or contact my District Office at (909) 980-1492.

Mobile District Office Coming to Grand Terrace and Fontana

Last week, I unveiled my Mobile District Office program, in which casework specialists from my office will travel to cities across the 31st Congressional District to provide help to constituents seeking assistance in resolving a problem with a federal agency.

Next week, the Mobile District Office will be at the Grand Terrace City Hall on March 11th and Fontana City Hall on March 14th from 10am-3pm. Please call my Rancho Cucamonga office, which is always open, at (909) 980-1492 to schedule an appointment. For upcoming dates and locations of the Mobile District Office, click here.

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